

For Immediate Release

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6th Annual Run 4 *Afikim* from Jerusalem to Eilat Takes Place on Wednesday

JERUSALEM, January 9, 2019 – Sixty-five runners will endeavor to raise a minimum of \$250,000 for the *Afikim* educational charity. Jerusalem's Deputy Mayor Elisha Peleg will dispatch the runners Wednesday night at the First Station. The runners are a group of volunteers featuring religious, secular, immigrants, students, businessmen and rabbis. Halfway between Jerusalem and Eilat, the runners will meet a group of *Afikim* children. The runners will run a total of 360 kilometers (216 miles).

In 2008, Israeli educator and child services administrator Moshe Lefkowitz launched the Jerusalem-based non-profit charity *Afikim*, as a way to address the enormous child poverty crisis in Israel. Lefkowitz raises funds that are needed to combat significant social issues.

Additional information on Run 4 *Afikim* can be found at <http://run4afikim.org/>

About Afikim

Afikim (www.afikim.org and video <https://youtu.be/0aqh9VCFiBk>) services 528 impoverished youth in 14 learning centers throughout Israel, mainly in Jerusalem. It is unique in that parents also receive family survival counseling. The organization was created to address the enormous child poverty crises in Israel, especially with the *olim*. Families are kept intact rather than going to foster care. This is accomplished by providing hot meals, tutoring, life skills training, counseling and other programs, so that youth under economic stress are nurtured to become successful members of Israeli society.

Afikim is run by its founder, Moshe Lefkowitz. He devotes his efforts to improving the welfare of needy children. His mission in 2019 is to increase the number of *Afikim* students by 80, as there are thousands of children (many immigrants) turned away yearly because of a lack of funding and space.

For those interested in volunteering at *Afikim's* *Talpiot* learning center, please contact miriam@afikim.org.

